

## Hunter Region Woko National Park Fire Management Strategy (Type 2) 2005

Sheet 1 of 1

This strategy should be used in conjunction with aerial photography and field reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

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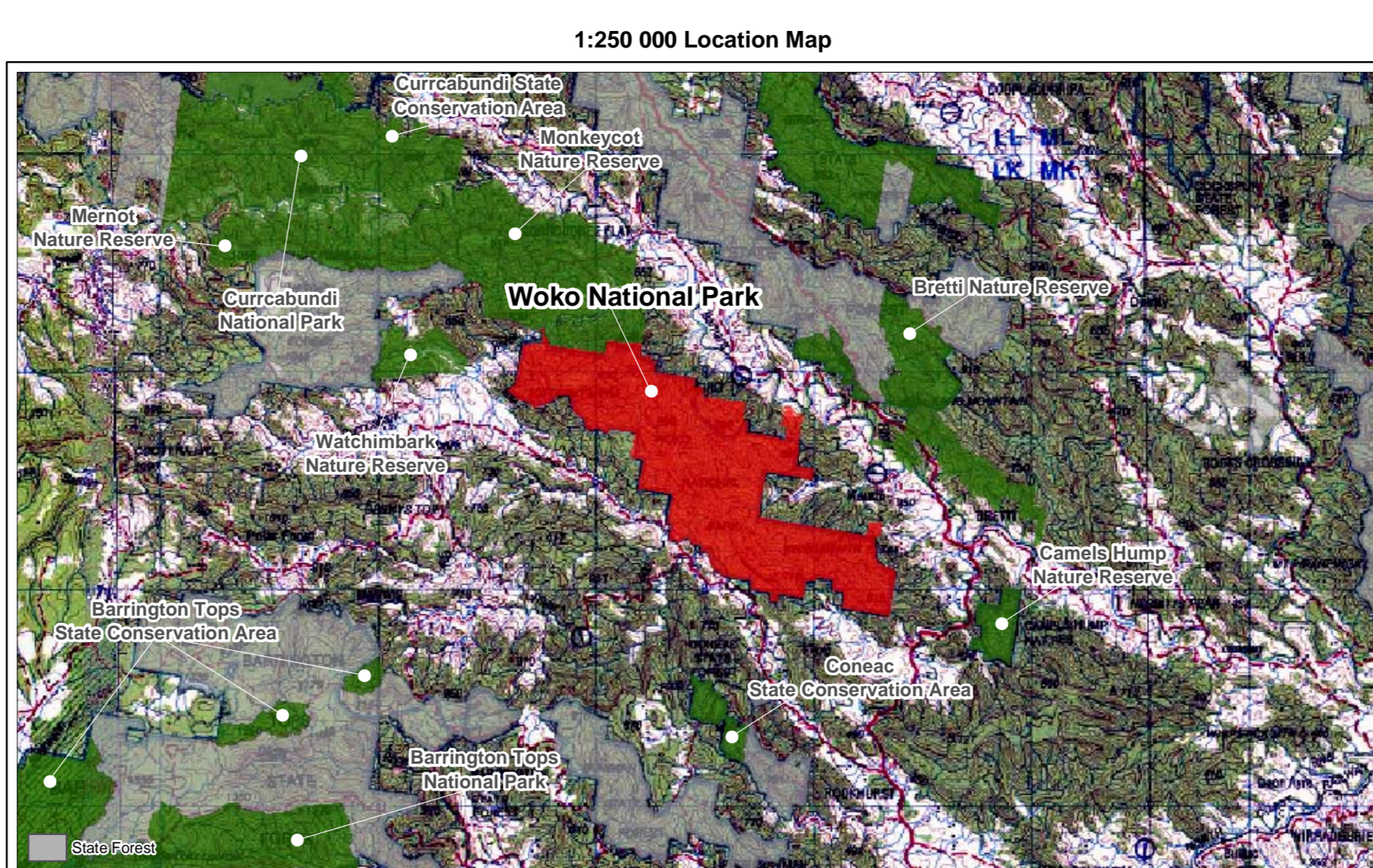
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This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (2) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

Endorsed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Northern, Parks & Wildlife Division

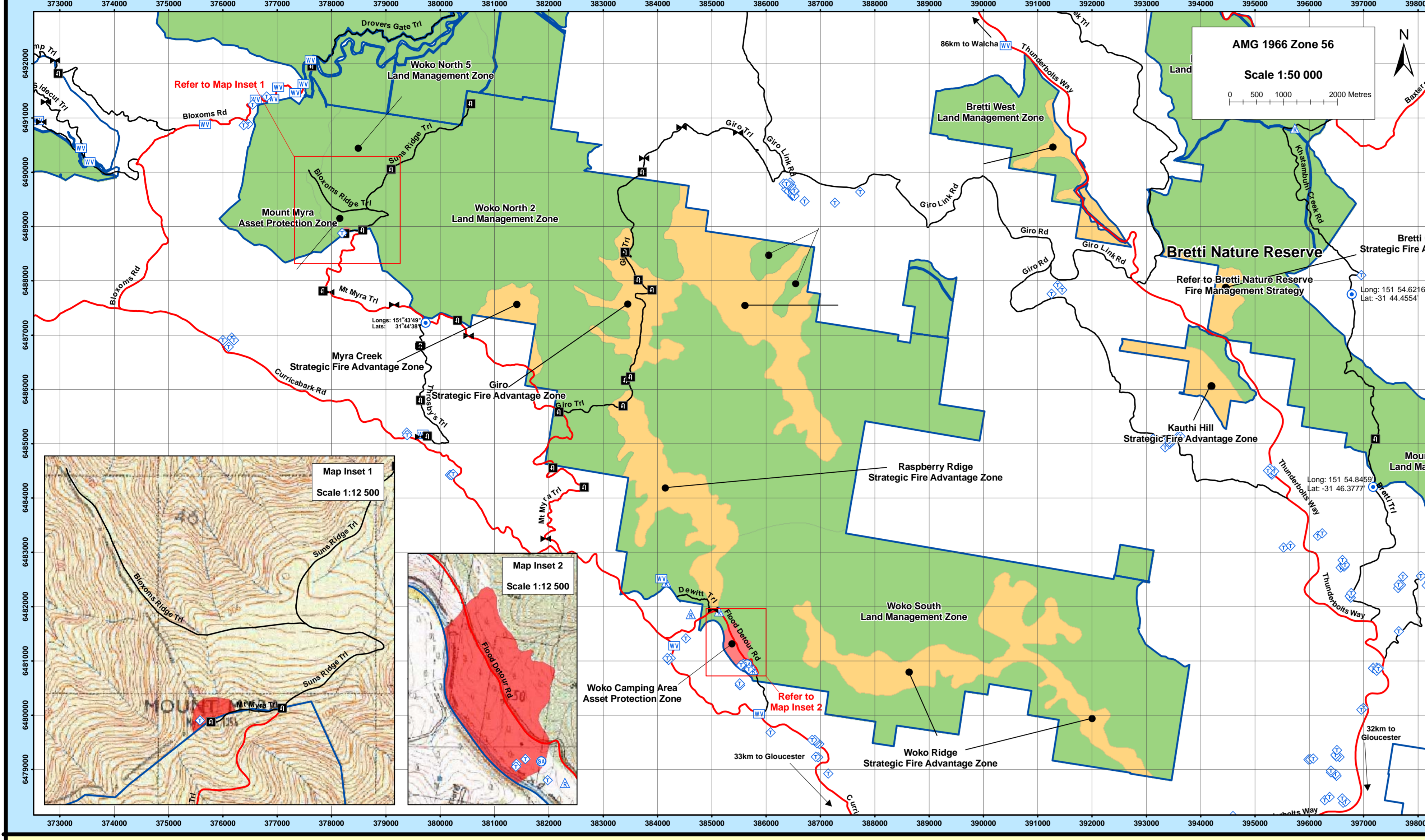
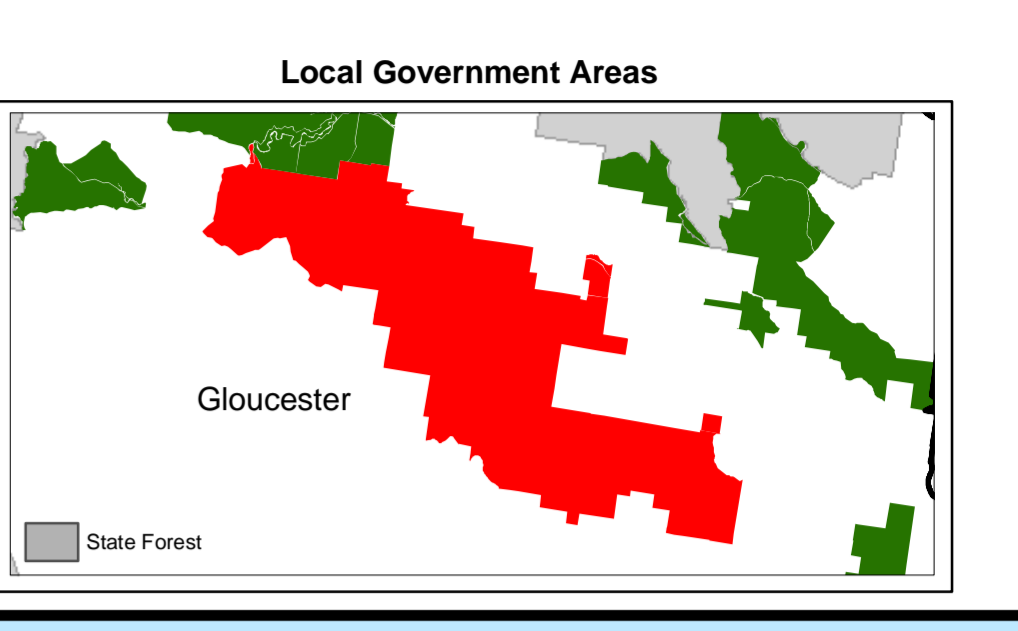
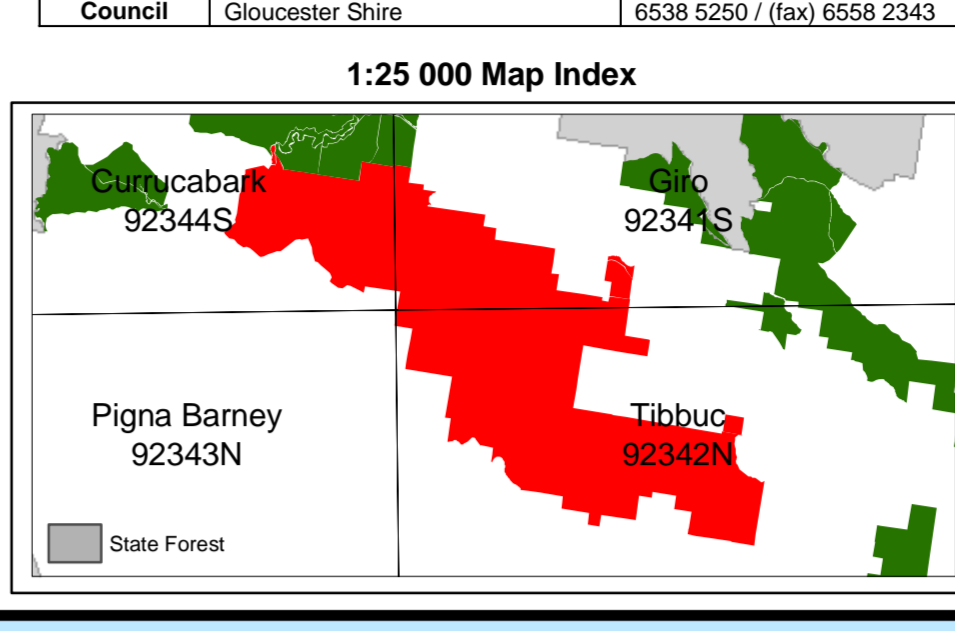


### CONTACT DETAILS

Agency	Position	Number
NPWS	Hunter Region Duty Officer (24 hr)	016 301 161 / 0429 144880
	Barrington Tops Area Manager	6538 5201 / 0429 144870
	Fire Management Officer	4884 6206 / 0429 144870
	Operations Co-ordinator	4884 6212 / 0429 144872
	Barrington Tops Area Office	6538 5200 / (fax) 6568 2476
Hunter Regional Office	4884 6200 / (fax) 4981 5913	
RFS	Gloucester District Fire Control Centre	6558 9222 / (fax) 6558 1723
	24hr Duty Officer	0500 899222
RFS Manning Team	Fire Control Centre	6592 6990 / (fax) 6592 6970
	24hr Duty Officer	6592 6966 / (fax) 6592 6970
NSW Fire Brigade	Newcastle Communications (24 hr)	49297 177 / (fax) 4927 2980
	Gloucester	6558 1788 / (fax) 6558 1636
SES	Gloucester	6558 1204
	Emergency	000
Police	Gloucester Station	131233
	Emergency	000
Ambulance	Bookings	131233
	Emergency	000
Hospital	Gloucester	6558 1307
	Newcastle	4529 4346
DIPNR	Gloucester	6538 5200 / (fax) 6568 2343
	Gloucester Shire	
Council	Gloucester	
	Gloucester Shire	

### COMMUNICATION RESOURCES

Service	Channel	Location/Comments
NPWS - VHF	263132	Select channel with best reception
	81 RFS/RAR	Mount Myra - County Energy Site
	82 RFS/RAR	Mount Myra - NPWS Site
	34 RFS/RAR	Mount Myra - Radio 2RE Site
	59 RFS/RAR	Mount Myra - Pines 17 Site
RFS - PMR	Awaiting	Mount Talahai - Optus Site
	19 RFS/RAR	Middle Brother - Fennells Site
RFS - GRN	128	Mount Myra - Strategic Network to State Operations
	199	No services available
NPWS-UHF	15	Can be located anywhere
	15	Kept at Regional Office
Portable Repeater		Full coverage
		Choose channel on fire-ground with RFS
Mobile Phone		Kept at Regional Office
		In Regional Comms Vehicle
Satellite Phone		ph: 0145 119487
		fax: 0145 219487



### BUSHFIRE RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES MAP LEGEND

Woko National Park	Existing Radiation Zone	Threatened Property
Fire Management Zones	Proposed Radiation Zone	Other Fire Control Advantages
Asset Protection Zone	Roads and Trails	Existing Assembly Area
Strategic Fire Advantage Zone	Primary (Cat 1)	Existing Vehicle Water Point
Heritage Management Zone	Secondary (Cat 9)	Existing Helipad
	Proposed (Cat 9)	Existing Turning Point
		Existing Refuge Area

### LEGEND DESCRIPTION

Note that some fire management zones extend beyond the boundaries of the reserve onto adjacent land. While the strategies proposed for adjacent land are not binding on the neighbouring property owner/occupier, NPWS will pursue these strategies with neighbours because if they are not implemented it may result in assets remaining at high risk. Where possible, NPWS will assist neighbours to undertake the proposed strategies.

**Asset Protection Zones:** The objective of asset protection zones is the protection of human life and property. This will be achieved by implementing the proposed burning frequency indicated on the adjacent map.

**Strategic Fire Management Zones:** The objective of strategic fire management zones is to help reduce fire behaviour. The proposed burning frequency for strategic fire management zones is indicated on the adjacent map.

**Heritage Management Zones:** The objective of heritage management zones is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. The proposed burning frequency for heritage management zones is that which is required to conserve biodiversity in the vegetation communities occurring within the zone. Proposed burning frequencies for vegetation communities occurring in the zones are as follows:

- Dry Sclerophyll Forest (5-50 years)
- Wet Sclerophyll Forest (25-60 years)
- Rainforest (Avoid all fire)
- Heritage Management Zones are depicted on adjacent map.

**Other fire control advantages** are features that may be used to support bushfire suppression operations and include water points (both helicopter and vehicle accessible), helipads, landing grounds, staging areas and refuge areas. Other fire control advantages that will be maintained or constructed in and around the reserves are illustrated in the adjacent map.

**Roads & Trails**

- The adjacent map illustrates existing trails that are considered important for fire management and are proposed to be maintained. Unless noted otherwise it is proposed that these trails are to be constructed by NPWS.
- The adjacent map also illustrates new trails that are considered important for fire management and proposed to be constructed. Unless noted otherwise it is proposed that these trails are to be constructed by NPWS.
- Primary Category 1 Trails are existing trails that will be maintained to a standard sufficient to allow the passage of Category 1 fire tankers (4wd Heavy Tanker 3000 to 4000 litre capacity).
- Secondary Category 9 Trails are existing trails that will be maintained to a standard sufficient to allow the passage of Category 9 fire tankers (4wd ute up to 400 litre capacity).
- Radiation zones are fuel reduced areas that are maintained by mechanical (i.e. slashing, brushcutting or chemical (i.e. herbicide) treatments).
- The adjacent map illustrates proposed and existing radiation zones that will be constructed or maintained. Unless noted otherwise they are to be constructed and maintained by NPWS to standards specified in Planning for Bushfire Protection (Planning NSW, 2001).

## Bushfire Suppression Information 2004/05

The information in this section will be updated annually based on fire history and completed fire management works.

### GENERAL OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

Activity	Guidelines
<b>Aerial Ignition</b>	May be used where considered appropriate.
<b>Backburning</b>	As far as possible, backburning should take account of threatened species and cultural heritage guidelines. On days when the fire danger is High, as far as possible delay backburning until early evening. Backburning may be safely undertaken during the day when the fire danger is High.
<b>Command and Control</b>	ICS system will be implemented during all fire suppression activities.
<b>Water Bombing</b>	Can be used to slow the spread of a fire but will not extinguish a fire without support from ground crews. Ground crews must be warned of water bombing operations.
<b>Visitor Safety</b>	As far as possible, foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of the water. Foam/water should not be used for building control lines because it is ineffective.
<b>Restoration</b>	Close roads if smoke or fire fighting operations are likely to cause a traffic hazard.
<b>Earth Moving Machinery</b>	Check and evacuate walking tracks and known remote camping areas within and adjacent to the fire area. The camping area is generally well protected from fire and visitors within the camping area will generally remain safe. However, because the access road to the camping area passes through dry forest, campers may not be able to leave.
<b>Foams &amp; Wetting Agents</b>	All new fire breaks will be restored as part of the fire suppression operation.
<b>Fire Advantage Recording</b>	Can be used with consent of NPWS and only if the probability of success is considered high.
<b>Retardant</b>	As far as possible, restrict use to dormant trails and other previously disturbed areas.
<b>Roads and Trails</b>	Subject to operational constraints, minimise the length of break constructed.
<b>Remote Area Fire Fighting</b>	As far as possible, take account of threatened species and cultural heritage management guidelines.
<b>Mt Myra Radio Installation</b>	The rule to be taken by earth moving machinery must be applied to all possible cultural heritage sites.
<b>Natural Fire Control Advantages</b>	Use permitted where considered appropriate.

### STATUS OF FIRE THRESHOLDS

Category	Interpretation
<b>Overburnt</b>	Protect from fire as far as possible.
<b>Vulnerable</b>	Past fire frequency has already exceeded biodiversity thresholds.
<b>Underburnt</b>	Protect from fire as far as possible.
<b>Almost Underburnt</b>	The occurrence of fire this year will result in biodiversity thresholds being exceeded.

### FIRE SUPPRESSION STRATEGIES

Current Fire Danger	Forecast Fire Danger	Guidelines
Low - Mod	Low - Mod	As far as possible, undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack along existing control lines taking advantage of NCFCA.
Low - Mod	> High	As far as possible, maximise area burnt without threatening assets, including biodiversity.
High	All	Identify and survey backup control lines.
All	All	Undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack to minimise the time taken to contain the fire.

### ABORIGINAL SITE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Label	Treatments
A1	As far as possible protect site from fire.
A2	Do not cut down trees.
A3	Use of teams, wetting agents & retardant is acceptable.

### HISTORIC HERITAGE SITE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Label	Treatments
HS1	High RCHMS priority.
HS2	High or low RCHMS priority.
HS3	High or low RCHMS priority.
HS4	High or low RCHMS priority.
HS5	High or low RCHMS priority.
HS6	High or low RCHMS priority.
HS7	High or low RCHMS priority.

### FIRE SEASON INFORMATION

The Woko National Park is located in a zone between subtropical, summer maximum rainfall patterns to the north and temperate, winter maximum rainfall patterns to the south.

Most extreme fire weather conditions occur during spring and early summer, resulting from moderate temperatures, low relative humidity and strong winds.

Subtropical summer rainfall in January usually ends the fire season in most years, however, if rain events do not occur the fire season may last from August to March.

Strong winds from the north and north west are the main influence for fire which can result in very high to extreme fire weather.

### FUELS AND FIRE BEHAVIOUR CHARACTERISTICS

Fuel Type	Behaviour Characteristics
<b>Dry Sclerophyll Forest</b>	Flammable under a wide range of conditions.
<b>Wet Sclerophyll Forest</b>	Highly flammable when BKDI > 80.
<b>Rainforest</b>	Generally only flammable when BKDI > 100.
<b>Cleared</b>	May function as control line when BKDI < 50.

### THREATENED FAUNA MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

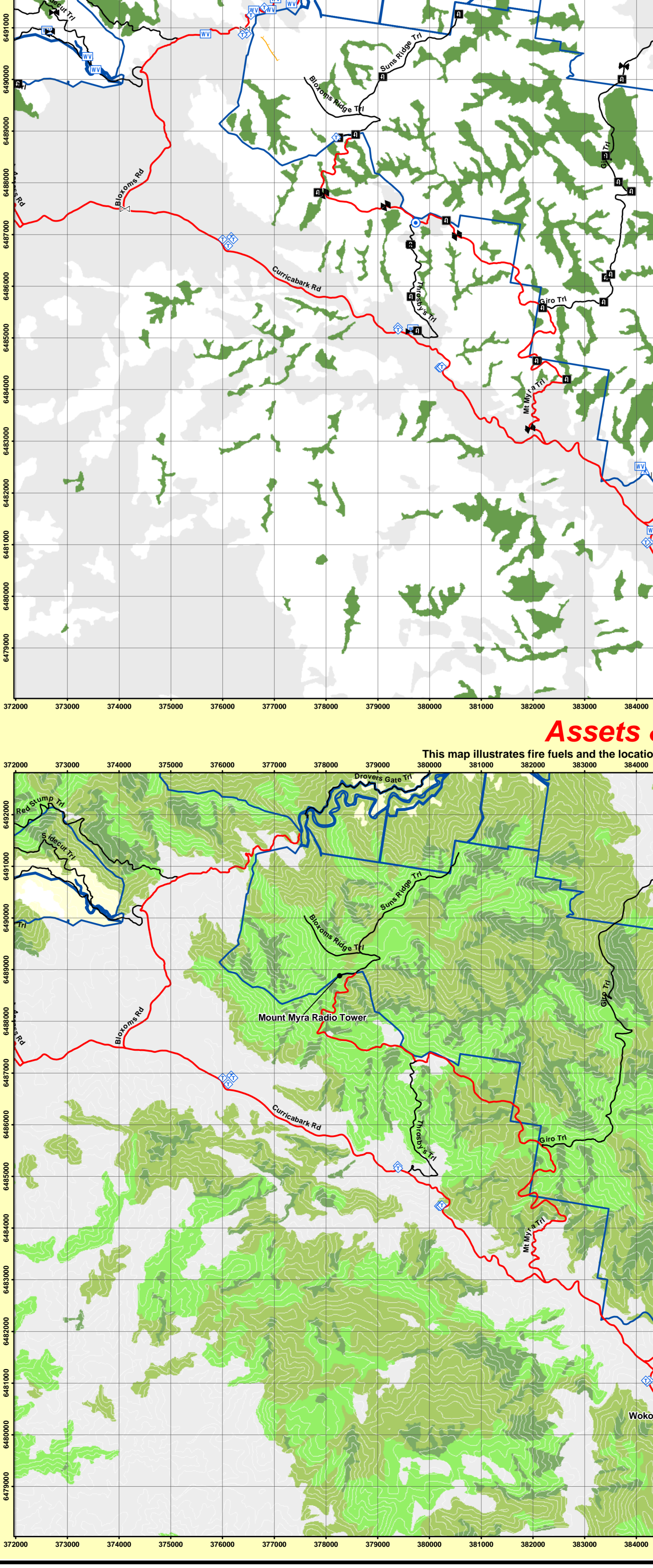
Label	Treatments
FA1	Protect large and hollow bearing trees.
FA2	Protect large and hollow bearing trees.
FA3	Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs.
FA4	Habitat unlikely to be affected by fire.
FA5	Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.
FA6	Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.
FA7	Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs.
FA8	Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible.

### THREATENED FLORA MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Label	Treatments
FL1	Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible.
FL2	Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible.
FL3	Avoid high intensity fire.
FL4	Avoid high intensity fire.
FL5	Avoid earth moving machinery.

## Fire Control Advantages

This map illustrates fire control advantages that may be used during bushfire suppression operations.



## Assets & Fire Fuels

This map illustrates fire fuels and the location of assets for use in bushfire suppression operations.

